

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 071518 TOSEC 030163  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/P:FJSEIDNER/VRM  
APPROVED BY EUR:REBARBOUR  
S/PRS - F. Z. BROWN  
S/S - PSEBASTIAN

-----312128Z 108211 /61

O 312107Z MAR 77 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 071518 TOSEC 030163

EXDIS/STADIS////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SOPN, PFOR

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON WESTERN EUROPEAN COMMUNISM

FOR CARTER AND HARTMAN

1. IN ANTICIPATION OF QUESTIONS ON USG ATTITUDE TOWARD  
WESTERN EUROPEAN COMMUNISM, STIMULATED BY EVANS/NOVAK  
PIECE TODAY, EUR HAS DRAFTED PRESS GUIDANCE AS STATED IN  
PARAGRAPH 2 BELOW. SPOKESMAN WILL FINESSE QUESTIONS  
RAISED BY EVANS/NOVAK ON ALLEGED DIFFERENCES WITHIN USG  
ON SUBJECT BUT WILL TAKE QUESTION, IF ASKED, ON US POLICY  
ON SUBJECT. REQUEST EARLY APPROVAL OF GUIDANCE OR  
SUGGESTIONS ON ALTERNATIVE RESPONSE. FULL TEXT OF EVANS/  
NOVAK ARTICLE BEING SENT SEPTEL.

2. Q: WHAT IS THE US GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE  
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WESTERN EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES?

A: WE BELIEVE THAT THE POSITION OF A COMMUNIST PARTY IN  
A PARTICULAR COUNTRY IS A MATTER TO BE DECIDED BY THE  
PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE COUNTRY CONCERNED. WE DO  
NOT PROPOSE TO INVOLVE OURSELVES IN THE PROCESSES BY  
WHICH THEY REACH THEIR DECISIONS ON IT.

THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT OUR ATTITUDE IS ONE OF INDIFFERENCE. WE ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO OUR RELATIONS WITH THE COUNTRIES OF WESTERN EUROPE AND TO OUR ABILITY TO WORK TOGETHER WITH THEM ON MATTERS OF VITAL INTEREST TO US ALL. NATURALLY, WE WOULD BE CONCERNED IF THESE GOVERNMENTS CAME TO BE DOMINATED BY POLITICAL PARTIES WHOSE PARTICULAR TRADITIONS, VALUES AND PRACTICES, BEING ALIEN TO THE FUNDAMENTAL DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES AND COMMON INTERESTS ON WHICH OUR RELATIONS WITH WESTERN EUROPE ARE BASED, WOULD CAST A SHADOW ON FUTURE COOPERATION BETWEEN US.

CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** SOPN, PFOR, (VANCE, CYRUS R)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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